

# Over 100 Bushels Corn.

(Continued From Page 1)

pay 10 per cent interest to mature an orchard proved a tough proposition. "What then was to be done? With a very limited demand for hay, and freight rates absolutely prohibiting any possibility of shipping such a bulky commodity, it devolved upon someone to find a means of getting the products of the soil to a profitable market, and that problem was undertaken by the Pomona Grange. It is well known that alfalfa furnishes cheap protein feed, but to grow it and make the growth practicable required a new method. During a discussion of the troubles at the Pomona Grange, it was suggested that a few acres of corn be planted in the county, and while the corn has been generally neglected for hay, the other more important part of the farm, corn had been grown that had surprised old corn growers of the middle west.

"As a result of this discussion a committee was appointed to organize a corn contest. This committee met with the Ontario Commercial club of Ontario, our principal city, and the business men of that town promptly subscribed \$500 to be used for prizes. The work of organization devolved upon a committee from the Pomona Grange, a committee in which we were most fortunate. Taking the government standard record for their model, they divided the county into districts, offering three prizes in each district, and a sweepstakes for the entire county.

"Then began a campaign to arouse interest in the contest. Lecturers and speakers from the agricultural department were secured and numerous meetings were held all over the county, instructing the farmers how to grow corn according to the most approved methods. The few who had raised corn under the conditions prevailing in this section were called upon to give their experiences, and soon seed corn was very much in demand. While no one had kept any records of their crops, those who had previously raised corn all agreed that it was absolutely essential that acclimated seed should be planted, and anything like a reasonably pure acclimated seed was a difficult article to obtain. Altogether the beginning of the contest was not satisfactory, but the good work went on and soon field after field of corn could be seen as one rode through the rural district. As the crop approached maturity everyone began to realize that the contest was a success, and when the measuring, shucking and weighing commenced it began to be rumored that there were fields that would make nearly 100 bushels, then rumors of over 100 bushels.

"Not satisfied with a most successful contest, the committee announced a Corn Carnival in Ontario, at which time the judging of the quality and the results of the contest would be announced, the contestants having been previously informed that the awards would be made on the basis of yield, 40 per cent; quality, 40 per cent; and record, 20 per cent. A holiday was declared in the entire county that the school children might attend and take part in the pageants and folk dances that were to form the dramatic conclusion to so prosaic a matter as growing corn. Crowds thronged the streets and filled the large storerooms where the two-bushel samples of corn from the contesting fields were on exhibition and being judged. The theater was thrown open to the public for the addresses and the entire county gave itself over to the festivities of the occasion.

"The judges were government men, men who had spent their lives in judging good corn in the old corn districts, and when they announced that not only had Malheur county shown exceptional yields, but also that the corn was of excellent quality, the Malheur County Pomona Grange believed that it had assisted this section in taking one long step in advance."

## NEW BLOCK IN HAINES.

Haines, Ore., Feb. 6.—(Argus Special Service).—F. B. Toney today sold the corner block where formerly stood the Toney hotel to John Hammond. Mr. Hammond is already having plans prepared for the immediate construction of a fire-proof building to cover the entire property.

## CALIFORNIA MAN FASTS.

Has Gone Fifty-two Days Without Food.

Palo Alto, Cal., Feb. 6.—(Argus Special Service).—L. C. Roth, a tailor here, took to his bed today as a result of a 55-day fast. Although Roth has lost fifty pounds in weight as a result of his abstinence from food he is not frightened at his emaciated condition and is patiently waiting for a return of appetite.

## National Grange Is.

(Continued From Page 1)

tion before planting as it has to be done so early in the spring that it leaves the ground cold and soggy. The first cultivation was given when the corn was three or four inches in height, cultivating about two inches deep with small shovels with a six Jap Pivot axle riding cultivator. This cultivation was as close to the corn as possible, using the fenders to pre-

vent covering of corn. In ten days or two weeks I went over it the second time with the same cultivator but with the fenders off and three inch shovels turned slightly to throw the soil to the corn and a little deeper cultivation about three inches deep, but shovels were run a little farther away as at this time the corn was about eight inches tall and the root system had begun to spread, the soil was thrown well up around the corn at this cultivation. I consider the second cultivation the most important of all as at this time the corn is large and as a rule the weeds and grass if any have just started and by throwing the nice mellow soil to and around the corn it will settle down over the weeds covering them entirely and killing them completely so that you are not bothered with them no more this season and does away with the necessity of having them out. At this cultivation in this way I can cover the weeds or grass completely when they are two or three inches high. The third cultivation was given with the same cultivator but was not run so close to the corn this time, keeping well away so as not to destroy the roots and a large shovel was attached to the back shank on one side to make a furrow to irrigate in. This was the last cultivation given of any kind. When the corn was about shoulder high, per-

haps five feet, and just beginning to show its tassels, it was given its first irrigation. The second irrigation was given about July and the last about August the 24th. There was nothing more done to the field until husking time, the measured acre making 102.28 bushels. However, I think it would be beneficial to give a shallow cultivation after each irrigation with a fine tooth one horse cultivator. In my case I had not the time as I was doing all the work in the corn and had other crops on the farm to look after besides raising and feeding 150 shoats. I farm my place without any help except at harvest time. I make it a practice to feed all my grain on the place for that is the only way to successfully farm in this or any other country. A combination of corn, hogs, wheat, clover or alfalfa with the wonderful climate and soil and water to irrigate ought to make the farmer at this Lower Snake River valley the most prosperous and happiest people on earth. I might say further that four years ago when I first started raising corn in this vicinity I was ridiculed and criticised for plowing up my alfalfa and putting it to corn, but I stayed with it because I found it more profitable. Mr. A. G. Kingman was the only man to give me encouragement. Yours for success and progress,

FRANKLIN C. FRY.

## Poultry Wanted!

I will be in Ontario Tuesday, February 9th, and will buy your Poultry at market price. I will also be in Ontario Tuesday of each week, through spring and summer. Will make headquarters at American Express. J. L. PIGG, BOISE, IDA.

## Notice!

ON and after February 1st, 1915, we discontinue our Aluminum Premiums. Any parties having premium books kindly present them to us and make your selection while our stock is complete, as we expect our stock to be all gone by February 10, after which time we will not recognize any premium books.

OREGON PACKING COMPANY.

After FEB. 1, we give Foster's Free Trips with CASH Purchases



The Malheur Mercantile Company

# Glad News For The Coal Consumer

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